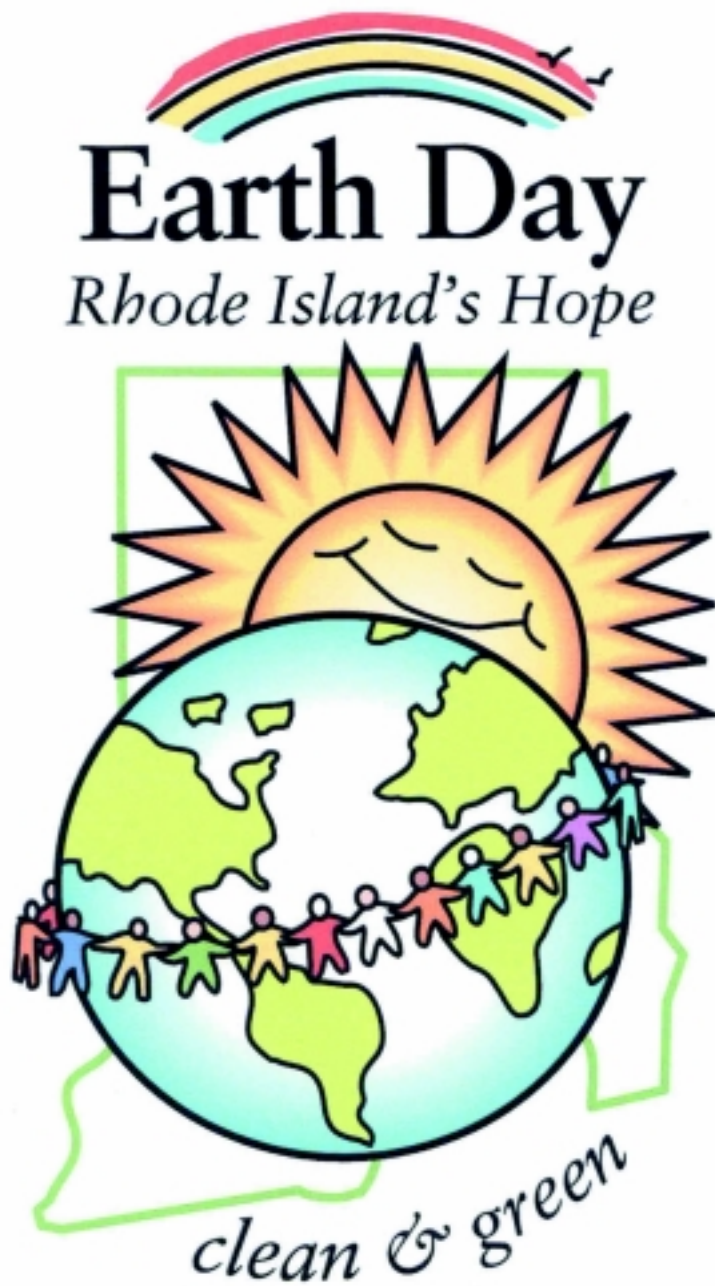


Earth Day Rhode Island

FINAL REPORT 2005



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

THIS YEAR MARKS THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

Since its inception in 1970, Earth Day has become a beacon of environmental responsibility and stewardship. Some have said the first Earth Day in 1970 was the largest public demonstration in history at the time.

Earth Day has been celebrated in Rhode Island continuously since 1990. Originally the Rhode Island Earth Day Committee, Earth Day Rhode Island has grown into a full-fledged 501(c)(3) certified non-profit corporation. The events we organize and sponsor serve as a catalyst for local change, rekindling personal commitment and broadening the base of public involvement. Our ultimate goal is to get everyone participating in promoting the health and safety of our environment through individual action.



In this report you will find a summary of our activities for 2005. *Your comments are welcome!* You can reach us at the address below or email: President Jef Fornaro at jefjr@cox.net.

**Earth Day Rhode Island
c/o DEM, Suite 330
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 222-3434**

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR FRIEND OF EARTH DAY,

On behalf of Earth Day Rhode Island, I would like to thank all who supported Earth Day 2005. Earth Day RI supports and promotes year-round environmental education and awareness. Earth Day events and activities provide information to and opportunities for all Rhode Islanders to manage, protect and enhance our environment. Our efforts this year would not have been possible without the considerable contributions of our corporate sponsors, and we encourage you to patronize them and let them know how much their support is appreciated.

Earth Day RI encourages people to raise their environmental consciousness by committing to “Take 3” steps to improve their environment. “Take 3” is a call to action which suggests dozens of ways to save energy, conserve water, reduce waste and respect nature. Details appear on our website: www.earthdayri.org. We reached many people this year with the “Take 3” message, including cleanup volunteers around the state, students of all ages, and exhibitors and attendees at Conservation Week and the Earth Day Family Festival held in April at Roger Williams Park Zoo.

Earth Day RI’s predecessor, the RI Earth Day Committee, celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. To mark the occasion and launch a new year of Earth Day events, we held a reunion/kickoff dinner at the Roger Williams Park Zoo on November 16, 2004. This well-attended event brought together many of our present and former members, sponsors and award recipients for a most enjoyable evening.

More and more evident each year is the growing awareness and interest of our youth in environmental activities. We at Earth Day RI are heartened by this, and remain deeply committed to continuing our outreach to them. This year’s winners of the Science Fair and Mark Gould Scholarships join those of previous years in their dedication to environmental awareness and action. Details appear further along in this report.

I would like to acknowledge the sterling efforts of our many volunteers, particularly those who participate in cleanup activities and the especially hard-working members of the Earth Day RI Board. To be sure, the efforts of all these people would be considerably less effective without the coordinating efforts and logistical support of the staff at the RI Department of Environmental Management. Terri Bisson and Melinda Hopkins continue to provide expertise, experience and hard work. We would not get very far without their efforts. I also would like to recognize the cooperation and encouragement provided by recently retired DEM Acting Director Fred Vincent and members of his staff who, in the face of personnel shortages and budget pressures, have not wavered in their support of Earth Day RI. We welcome Dr. W. Michael Sullivan as Mr. Vincent’s worthy successor, wish him every success in his new duties, and encourage him to continue the Department’s commitment to Earth Day.

Thank you again to all who made Earth Day 2005 a success. Please read on to learn the details of our various activities and about those who made them possible. Visit our website to learn of activities and programs planned for Earth Day 2006. Remember our motto of “Earth Day Every Day” and continue to be aware of the many ways in which YOU can make the Earth a better place for future generations.

Cordially,



John E. “Jef” Fornaro, Jr.
President

EARTH DAY FAMILY FESTIVAL AND CONSERVATION WEEK

Earth Day Rhode Island once again teamed up with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and Roger Williams Park Zoo this year to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Earth Day in April. More than 44,000 people attended Conservation Week, April 18 -22, and the Earth Day Family Festival on April 23rd.



Signing up to be an Environmental Watchdog at the DEM booth during Conservation Week.

Conservation Week

focused on Zoo efforts to protect endangered species such as the tree kangaroo and red wolf. During Conservation Week, Earth Day RI distributed “Take 3” brochures to encourage people to take 3 small steps to better the environment and signed children up to be “Environmental Watchdogs”. Zoo exhibits focused on saving some of the most threatened environments in North America, such as sensitive wetlands, and saving the Karner Blue Butterfly. Special talks and demonstrations offered insight into how to put conservation into action.



Protium Band's hydrogen fuel cell-powered equipment fired up the Festival on April 23, 2005.

On Saturday, Earth Day RI celebrated with the Family Festival at the Zoo. Displays and interactive exhibits

EARTH DAY FAMILY FESTIVAL

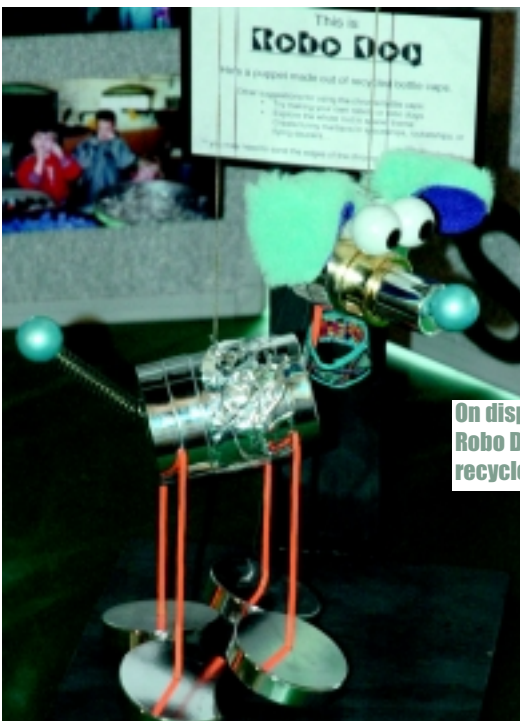


PRO-FM gave free flowers to Festival attendees.

at the Family Festival's environmental educational fair engaged the minds of young and old alike with more than 33 environmentally conscious companies and non-profit organizations. The Festival's performance lineup included Looking Glass Theater, the Fourth Street Band, and Protium Band. Hailing from Ponaganset High School, Protium operates on hydrogen fuel cell power only, not electricity. Protium's special equipment powered

the whole day's performance lineup.

Once again, the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) proved free transportation to the Festival to reduce air pollution and to encourage urban residents to attend. The Earth Day Express ran between Exchange Terrace in downtown Providence and the Zoo. Free admission to the Zoo and Festival was available to the first 500 bus riders.



On display at the Festival is Robo Dog, a puppet made from recycled bottle caps.

Photos this page courtesy of East Greenwich Photo



Rhode Island Vegan Awareness had a colorful display booth at the Festival.

EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS

HELP KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT CLEAN

This year, an army of volunteers participated in almost 60 Earth Day cleanups throughout the state. The average amount of refuse collected each year totals some 170 tons, and this year was no exception. To facilitate the



Parent Action Committee with Moses Brown School clean up the Providence River shoreline.

organization of cleanups, we posted locations and details on our website: www.earthdayri.org. Hundreds of hard working volunteers responded. According to Terri Bisson of the Department of Environmental Management and Earth Day RI, “Earth Day cleanup volunteers make a great contribution to shaping up our neighborhoods and coastline. They’re the people who care enough to roll up their sleeves and get out there to make Rhode Island a better place to live.”

DEM provided posters, gloves and special Earth Day 2005 refuse bags to assist with their cleanups. DEM also gave \$10,000 in mini grants to cleanup organizations to enhance their cleanups. RI Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) waived tipping fees for Earth Day cleanup debris. Many local businesses also joined the cleanup effort by donating food, drinks and other items for our volunteers.

Local cleanup coordinators reported picking up some unusual pieces of debris along with the regular litter this year, including washers and dryers, a whole spiral staircase, 15 tons of discarded computers and 20 tons of discarded tires.

In a thank you letter to DEM, Mayor David S. Iwuc of the Town of Cumberland said, “It was an inspiration to work with such committed residents and supporters. To see the bags lined up along the streets all over Cumberland and the tires being collected that day was certainly one of the bright spots in my job.”

REACHING OUT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF TOMORROW

MARK GOULD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Auriane Koster receives her Mark Gould Scholarship check and plaque from Earth Day RI President Jef Fornaro.

Earth Day RI awarded Mark Gould Scholarships of \$1500 to two local college students.

The Mark Gould Scholarship memorializes the late ecology professor who founded and directed the Center for Economic and Environmental Development at Roger Williams University. Dr. Gould was well respected for his work in marine biology, which he integrated into the practical realms of business and environmental policy. The scholarship recipients were Ms. Auriane Koster of Wakefield, who is currently attending URI, and Ms. Vanessa Venturini of Warwick, who will transfer to URI in the fall.

Ms. Koster is pursuing a double major of Mathematics and Environmental Science and Management at URI. She intends to work within the field of renewable energy upon graduation. She is president of the school's Renewable Energy Club, which is currently working to install an industrial-sized wind turbine on the university's Kingston campus.

Ms. Venturini is majoring in Marine Science and hopes one day to make a positive impact on Narragansett Bay. Currently enrolled at New College of Florida, she has an internship in Environmental Stewardship with The Sarasota Bay Estuary Program, where she will work in habitat restoration.



Mr. Venturini accepts the award for his daughter

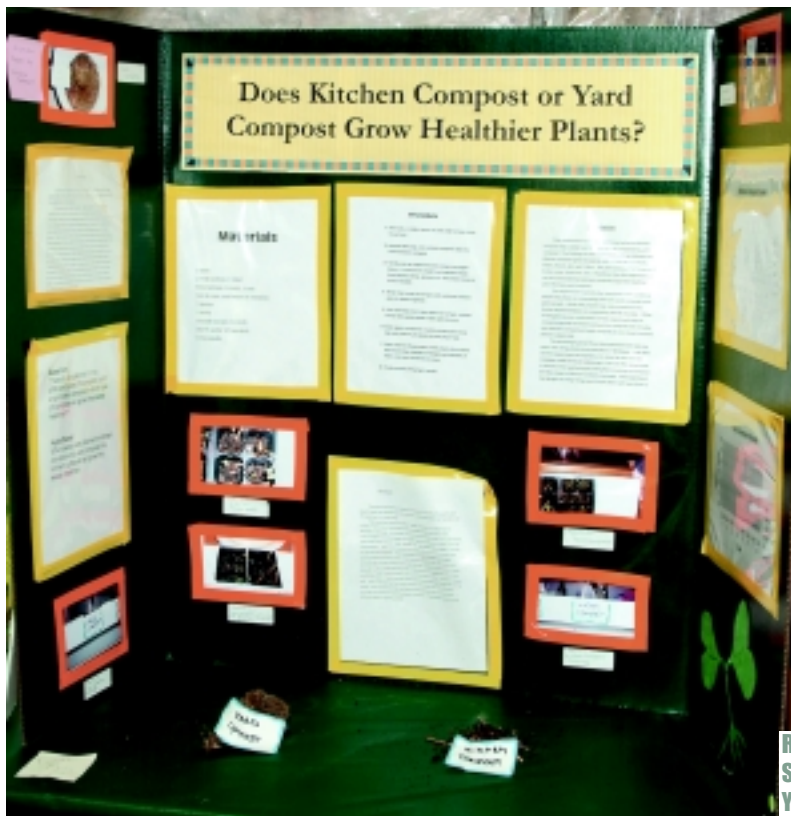
TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF TOMORROW

SCIENCE FAIR AWARD WINNERS

Earth Day RI selected four Rhode Island youths to receive cash prizes for demonstrating exceptional environmental consciousness in their science projects at the 2005 Science and Engineering Fair held March 12 and 13 at CCRI's Warwick campus.

Awards of \$250 each went to students Rebecca Copeland of Mt. Hope High School and Gregory Turner of Coventry High School. Ms. Copeland presented the project, "Does Kitchen Compost or Yard Compost Grow Healthier Plants?". Ms. Copeland showed that compost from kitchen waste grew better seedlings, a fact she attributed partly to the acidity of orange peels in the kitchen compost.

Mr. Turner's project, "Eco-Roofs and Their Modern Application in America," investigated how roofs can be utilized for heating and cooling, especially in urban environments. Mr. Turner built a small model of a roof and had several drawings and pictures demonstrating various roof models and their environmental usefulness.



Two awards of \$150 each went to junior high school students Nicole DelGreco of Cranston-Johnston Catholic Regional School and Kendra Dawless of Father John V. Doyle School. Ms. DelGreco's project investigated the question, "How Does Acid Rain Affect the Environment Around Us?"

Ms. Dawless's project on "Biodegradability" focused on which would break down first—wood or fabric—when buried in dirt and sprinkled with water.

Rebecca Copeland of Mt. Hope High School won a Science Fair Award with, "Does Kitchen Compost or Yard Compost Grow Healthier Plants?"

CELEBRATING THE ENVIRONMENTALISTS OF THE YEAR

On Earth Day—Friday, April 22—Earth Day Rhode Island announced its 2005 choices for the **Environmentalists of the Year**. The awards recognize individuals, groups and corporations for their significant contributions to Earth Day and environmental protection in Rhode Island. This year's winners included two group awards, an individual award, and a corporate award.

GROUP AWARDS

Students from Westerly's Babcock Middle School won one of two Environmentalist of the Year group awards for the project "Westerly Innovations Network (WIN) '05—Reuse and Recycle our E-Waste." Since last August the students have been reprogramming used or discarded computers as part of a project to raise awareness of E-waste and the importance of recycling obsolete electronic goods. E-Waste is a serious threat to human health as well as to the environment. The students have refurbished over 100 computers and donated them to needy individuals and families. The students are now seeking sponsors to ship refurbished computers to areas affected by the tsunami.



Park View Middle School, Cranston, and teacher Joanne Spaziano won the second Environmentalist of the Year group award for incorporating comprehensive energy programs into math, science and language arts curricula and for making energy efficiency improvements at the school. The students, under the direction of Ms. Spaziano, began a comprehensive energy program, which included lighting retrofits and the installation of photovoltaic panels, resulting in approximately \$8,200 in annual savings on the cost of electricity. Ms. Spaziano has worked with her students and fellow teachers on National Energy Education

Development (NEED) Project programs, including workshops on energy forms, sources, and electricity generation. As a result the Park View students and teachers are among the best of NEED's leaders nationally.



EDRI President Jef Fornaro presents Group Awards to Babcock Middle School students (above) and Park View Middle School students and teacher Joanne Spaziano (left).

CELEBRATING THE ENVIRONMENTALISTS OF THE YEAR

INDIVIDUAL AWARD

The individual award went to Robert Cerio, formerly of Warwick Public Schools and now of Hudson Companies in Providence. Mr. Cerio worked for the past six years as Energy Educator Manager for the Warwick Public Schools, where he was responsible for the administration of the District's Energy Management Conservation Program. The program encompasses management of energy consumption, cost and procurement for the district's 29 Public Educational Facilities. Through this program the district saved over \$2 million in the past six years and has received grant funds to implement several alternative energy projects. Mr. Cerio also implemented a pilot project to test the use of bio-diesel fuels in school heating systems.



Robert Cerio, Individual Environmentalist of the Year.

CORPORATE AWARD

Toray Plastics, Inc., won this year's Corporate Environmentalist of the Year Award for its recycling efforts. According to the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, which operates the state's Central Landfill, Toray has made larger strides in this area than other Rhode Island companies, recycling waste and greatly reducing what it sends to the landfill. The Toray plant recycles office paper as well as bottles and cans left behind by employees at mealtime. Legally, all Rhode Island companies must recycle, but few do, says Resource Recovery Corporation deputy director Jim Allam. Special recognition was given to WasteXpress of Cranston, a company working on the cutting edge of recycling.

WasteXpress worked with Toray to design and construct the special recycling receptacles and vehicles, which made Toray's program possible.



Toray Plastics with WasteXpress receiving Corporate Environmentalist of the Year award.

A significant part of Earth Day RI's mission in recent years has been to expand its influence beyond the events traditionally surrounding Earth Day itself. To this end, we have taken on active roles in several groups and activities. As a voting member of the Environment Council of Rhode Island, we attend its monthly meetings and maintain a meaningful role in the discussions and activities of that group. On our behalf, President Jef Fornaro participates in DEM's Environmental and Business Roundtables and sits on the recently rejuvenated Litter Task Force, a group in which the Governor's Office maintains an active interest.

Also, thanks to the generous contributions of our sponsors, we have been able to partner with others on a number of worthy projects. We supported the Audubon Society's Earth Day activities at its Bristol Education Center, which helped expand our influence into the East Bay area of Rhode Island. We co-sponsored the Environment Council of RI's recently published brochure on global warming in Rhode Island, which provides a wake-up call to state and local governments and others and proposes effective steps to curb this serious problem. We funded part of Apeiron Institute's interactive virtual tour of its Center for Environmental Living, soon to be available online at www.apeiron.org and on CD-ROM. We also joined with Clean Water Action of Rhode Island to honor government, legislative and non-profit leaders at its Earth Day Breakfast of Champions.

Earth Day Rhode Island is proud to have a meaningful role in these important activities, and we look forward to continuing to expand our influence and encourage environmental action in such ways. **Comments and suggestions about these and our other programs are always welcome.**

THE PEOPLE BEHIND EARTH DAY RHODE ISLAND

Earth Day Rhode Island is an organization comprised mainly of volunteers who are committed to supporting, planning, organizing and promoting Earth Day in Rhode Island. Fund-raising efforts and the Department of Environmental Management support Earth Day RI's activities.

Mr. Jef Fornaro
President

Mr. Mike Mesolella
Vice President

Rev. Mary Hitt
Secretary

Ms. Martha Graziano
Treasurer

Ms. Terri Bisson
RIDEM

Ms. Melinda Hopkins
RIDEM

Mr. Dick Brussard
RI Resource Recovery Corporation

Mr. Jack Schempp
Environment Council of RI

Ms. Ann Quaedvlieg
Development Director

Volunteers:

Ms. Diana Reisman

Ms. Aimee Reisman

Ms. Kim Pond

Ms. Jean Lawlor

THANK YOU, EARTH DAY PARTNERS!

OUR SPONSORS

Corporate support makes it possible for Earth Day Rhode Island to spread the message of environmental awareness, foster participation in community clean ups and celebrate public involvement in Earth Day. We are truly grateful to our corporate partners—from our long-time sponsors to those who joined in 2005. Special recognition goes to *The Providence Journal*, whose support dates back to our first celebration in 1995.

We were pleased to celebrate on May 10, 2005 our first annual Sponsor Recognition and Awards Breakfast, held at the Ground Round/Comfort Inn in Pawtucket. This event officially

concluded Earth Day RI's 2005 activities celebrating the 35th anniversary of Earth Day nationally and the organization's 10th in Rhode Island.



Thank You Starbucks



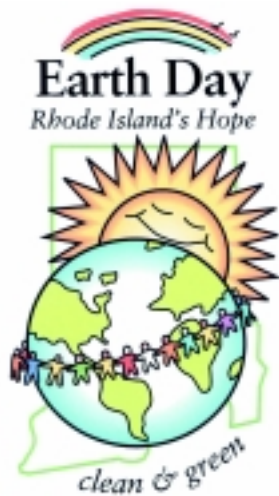
Thank You Verizon



Thank You RIPTA

OUR EXHIBITORS

Apeiron Institute for Environmental Living
Audubon Society of RI
Clean Water Action
CVS Pharmacy
Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island,
Environment Committee
Earthwatch Institute
Environment Council of RI
Johnson & Wales University
Marah International, Inc.
Natural News Network
People's Power and Light
Polar Bear International
RCAP Solutions
Recycling for RI Education
RI Childhood Lead Poisoning
Prevention Program
RI Department of Environmental Management
RI Resource Recovery Corporation
RI Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Animals
RI State Energy Office
RI Renewable Energy Fund
RI Vegan Awareness
Shaw's Supermarkets
Stop & Shop
Sierra Club Rhode Island Chapter
Starbucks Coffee Company
Toxics Information Project
Toyota of Newport
URI Master Gardeners Assoc.
USDA-Natural Resources
Conservation Services
US Environmental Protection Agency
US Geological Society
Waste Management, Inc.
Wildlife Rehabilitators Association of RI



ADVERTISING AND MARKETING CAMPAIGN 2005

Earth Day Rhode Island

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

RADIO ADVERTISEMENTS

Thanks to corporate sponsorships and RIDEM, Earth Day 2005 received widespread exposure through an extensive advertising campaign and publicity at a variety of venues. We formed a partnership with Citadel Communication, owner of **Lite Rock 105**, **WPRO AM & FM**, and **HOT 106** to promote Earth Day activities in RI.



These four radio stations ran a total of 347 spots using the radio spots below. Both were played with upbeat music in the background and closed with the reading of the following list of sponsors and a reminder to visit earthdayri.org to learn more. Earth Day in Rhode Island is sponsored by DEM, Roger Williams Park Zoo, American Power Conversion, Amgen, CVS Pharmacy, Lincoln Environmental, RI Resource Recovery Corporation, Starbucks Coffee, Rhode Island State Energy Office, TransCanada (Ocean State Power Facility), and VerizonSuperPages

60-SECOND FESTIVAL RADIO SPOT

“Did you know that April 22 is the 35th anniversary of Earth Day? To celebrate, on Saturday, April 23, Earth Day RI has a fun-packed day in store at Roger Williams Park Zoo. The Earth Day Family Festival runs from 10:30 to 3:30 and features fun, interactive, educational environmental exhibits and a performance lineup with Looking Glass Theater, the Fourth Street Band, and Protium Band of Ponaganset High School. Protium Band operates on hydrogen fuel cell power, not electricity. Protium’s special equipment will power the whole performance lineup.

“Forget the hassle and pollution of driving and leave the transportation to RIPTA: A free Earth Day Express shuttle will run between Exchange Terrace in downtown Providence and the Zoo. The first 500 bus riders will gain free admission to the Zoo and Festival. Otherwise the regular Zoo entrance fee applies.”

60-SECOND CLEANUPS RADIO SPOT

“Did you know that April 22 is the 35th anniversary of Earth Day? To mark the occasion, join one of the roughly 100 Earth Day cleanups taking place all month throughout the state. Summer is fast approaching, and much of our shoreline needs a facelift before locals and tourists alike can fully appreciate the natural beauty Rhode Island has to offer. Join thousands of others who will work together for a few hours to help clean up what might be a significant area right in your neighborhood. It’s time to take action, so visit earthdayri.org to find a cleanup near you. Remember, keeping the state’s magnificent shores in pristine condition begins at home. So, when you think about cleaning up your yard this spring, consider that many of your neighbors have already pledged to give back a few hours as a clean up volunteer. Won’t you please step up to the challenge? It’s fun and very rewarding.”

PRINT ADVERTISEMENTS

The print advertisement that appears on next page ran in the following publications:

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

AND THE RI NEWSPAPER GROUP, COMPRISED OF

BARRINGTON TIMES

BRISTOL PHOENIX

CHARIHO TIMES

COVENTRY COURIER

CRANSTON HERALD

EAST GREENWICH PENDULUM

JOHNSTON SUN RISE

LINCOLN/CUMBERLAND
VALLEY BREEZE

NARRAGANSETT TIMES

THE NEWS

NORTH KINGSTOWN
STANDARD-TIMES

NORTH PROVIDENCE NORTH STAR

NORTH SMITHFIELD/BLACKSTONE/
WOONSOCKET VALLEY BREEZE

THE OBSERVER

THE PROVIDENCE BUSINESS NEWS

THE PAWTUCKET TIMES

THE PROVIDENCE AMERICAN

THE PROVIDENCE PHOENIX

SAKONNET TIMES

SOMERSET SPECTATOR

WARREN TIMES GAZETTE

WARWICK BEACON

THE WOONSOCKET CALL

PRINT ADVERTISEMENTS

This newspaper ad ran in *The Providence Journal* on Thursday, April 21 and Friday, April 22. It ran in the Rhode Island Newspaper Group newspapers (see the RING list on the previous page) during the week of April 18 and in *Providence en Español* on Friday, April 15 and Friday, April 22. The document also served as the Festival poster.

Earth Day Rhode Island Presents . . .

EARTH DAY FAMILY FESTIVAL 2005

Saturday, April 23, 2005 • 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Roger Williams Park Zoo • Providence



Earth Day
Rhode Island's Hope
clean & green

Family Entertainment! Music! Exhibits!
Free Raffles & Give-A-Ways!

Free! Ride RIPTA's Earth Day Express from Kennedy Plaza in Downtown Providence to Roger Williams Park Zoo. The first 500 riders receive free admission to the zoo, otherwise regular zoo admission applies. So hurry down to Kennedy Plaza and jump on the Earth Day Express!

Earth Day in Rhode Island is sponsored by:







Call (401) 222-3434 or visit www.earthdayri.org for more information

PRINTED PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Help Wanted



Earth Day 2005 Community Cleanup

Help make a difference. Sign up today.

Earth Day cleanup will be held:

Date: _____

Place: _____

Time: _____

Contact: _____

Rhode Island Earth Day 2005 is cosponsored by the Rhode Island Earth Day Committee, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and Roger Williams Park Zoo. Free cleanup disposal fees provided by the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation.




















CLEANUP POSTER

An 11x17 inch Cleanup Poster (left) was handed out to cleanup coordinators for statewide distribution.

EARTH DAY BOOKMARKS

10,000 bookmarks (below; front on left, back to the right) were distributed to public libraries and schools to promote the 2005 Earth Day Family Festival.

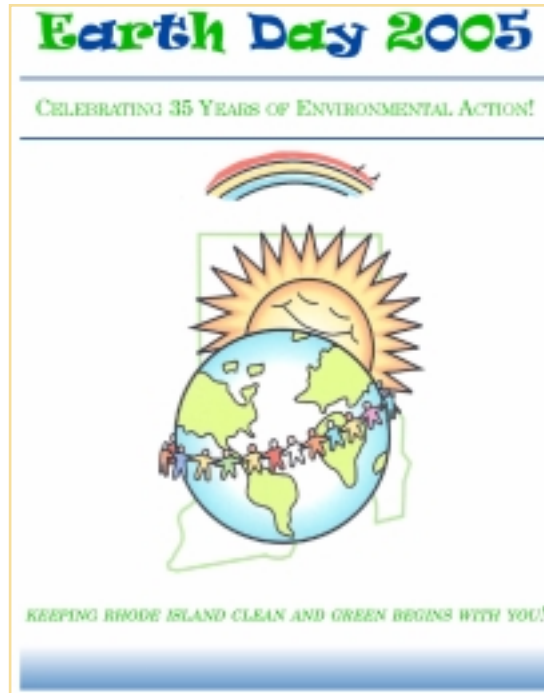


CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

PRINTED PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

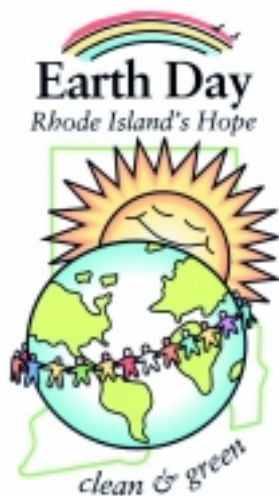
EARTH DAY T-SHIRTS

Our T-shirts celebrated our 35 year anniversary (front) and promoted our our sponsors on the back (right).



TAKE 3 PAMPHLETS

Thousands of Take 3 pamphlets were distributed during Conservation Week and the Earth Day Family Festival. The pamphlet opens to an 11x17 inch poster and contains hundreds of environmental tips for consumers. (The outside front and back are shown here)



PRINT MEDIA COVERAGE 2005 _____

Earth Day Rhode Island

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Volunteers sought for cleanup

EAST GREENWICH — The town will celebrate Earth Day Saturday with a community cleanup project from 9 a.m. to noon.

The public is encouraged to lend a hand in the effort alongside Boy and Girl Scout

troops as well as other concerned citizens.

Clean up headquarters will be at the Town Hall, 125 Main St., where opening ceremonies will take place at 9 a.m. Bags, work gloves and refreshments will be available

at this location throughout the morning.

All public areas will be part of the clean-up, although volunteers will target the area that runs from Main Street to Greenwich Cove in addition to Eldredge School, the adjoining playground and Eldredge Field.

The municipal parking lot at 70 Main St., the Barbara Tufts Tot Lot at the corner of Lion and Water streets, the Wine Street cemetery, King Street, Water Street and other streets in the Hill and Harbor District also will be part of the cleanup.

Volunteers also are needed to put a fresh coat of stain on the Main Street planters for the upcoming summer season.

Page 2-B • Friday, April 22, 2005 • The Narragansett Times

Over 250 volunteers turn out for 4th Annual Earth Day Clean up

"It takes a lot of lazy slobs to make a mess like this," commented one of the clean up crew members that worked Breakwater Village and the famous K-39 surfing area in Pt. Judith. He was speaking about the incredible amount of debris, trash, and lobster pots, and netting, that overflowed from his pickup truck.

This was just one story during last Saturday's 4th Annual Earth Day Clean Up, which took place at various beach and surfing sites throughout South County and Newport. Over 250 volunteers turned out in what Sherri Fournier, Surfrider Foundation coordinator for the event, called, "The largest and most successful clean up effort in the history of our organization."

The volunteers came from everywhere. There were Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, high school students, senior citizens, and community service organizations.

There was also a strong showing of members of both the Eastern Surfing Association and the Rhode Island Chapter of Surfrider Foundation, which co-sponsored the annual event with the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, and the Town of Narragansett Parks and Recreation Department.

It didn't just happen, either. Over six months of meetings and preliminary work went into this project. The combined



On the Edge

By PETER PAN

efforts of Rhode Island Surfrider's Sherri Fournier and Dave Prescott, along with ESA Director Peter Pan and RIRRC representatives Mike Mesolella and Mike Salvatore, made it happen.

And it was a great day for a clean up. The surf was up, and many of the ESA and Surfrider members managed to catch some of the four-six foot waves that rolled into the beach, either before or after the clean up took place. The rest of the volunteers came in shorts and teeshirts.

Paul Caccia, RIRRC Waste Prevention Coordinator, summed up this massive effort in a sentence. "Compared to this year's clean up, it has all been like amateur night." And judging by the sheer volume of shoreline trash collected, and computer rubbish deposited, it might have been an understatement.

"It looks like there is well over 16,000 pounds of trash that has been collected," said RIRRC Municipal Recycling Coordinator, Mike Mesolella. "The E-trash is crazy. It looks like we could be bringing in four big trucks to haul it out. Over 400 monitors and proba-

bly 37,000 pounds of computers.

Program Manager of RIRRC, John Trevor agreed with him. "This is far more than we have ever collected at any site, since this computer recycling program began."

Paul Caccia noted that while RIRRC will dispose of the E-trash in the proper manner, this is not always the case. "Much of our country's electronic trash ends up being shipped in containers, to Third World countries, because there is no legal way to dispose of it in the U.S. Many times, the dangerous chemicals in these computer parts will leak out and either sicken or kill the people who live in these countries." Paul suggested that going to the website www.ban.com, would show people just what is going on.

What prompts people to ruin the shoreline with their garbage? Wouldn't we all like to know! "We spent one hour with 20 other volunteers, dragging what had to be a 1,200 pound netting from Deep Hole at Matunuck," said Charlestown's Kevin Langevin. "Now we still need someone with a big truck to pick it up and haul it off the beach. At least we got it out of the water. I don't understand why anyone would toss this off a boat?"

Earth Day clean-ups planned

Jessica Carr • Daily Times

RIVERPOINT — People all over the country are holding activities and events to commemorate Earth Day. In the Pawtuxet Valley, it's the Kent County Jaycees that are promoting environmental awareness.

The Jaycees are going forward with their annual Earth Day clean up of the Jaycee Corridor and Arboretum. This area forms the portal entrance to the state Senator Donald E. Roch Riverwalk.

"In 1995, we got a green-work grant to take over this area and then began to work with Senator Roch's family," said Jack Lancellotta, the executive director of the Kent County Jaycees. "Together, we decided that that entire area was a little unappealing and something needed to be done about it."

All together, the Jaycee Corridor and Arboretum covers about 400 linear feet and has a width of about 22 feet. The grounds has several white ash trees, shrubs and plenty of grass.

"We have got a lot of leaves and debris that has accumulated after the harsh winter that we had," said Lancellotta. "It can be quite a job for just a few people to rake and haul it all away so that is why we ask for the community to come out and help us."

See JAYCEES, Page A-2

JAYCEES

Continued from Page A-1

Volunteers that are willing to come should be prepared to contribute a couple of hours doing general landscape type tasks including raking, bagging leaves, picking up scattered debris, shoveling much and preparing extensive cultivation beds for spring planting later in May.

Clean-ups are planned for Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each day.

All are encouraged to show their support by getting involved in this community endeavor. Volunteers need not register, they can just show up at the site, just beyond the red caboose located at the intersection of Hay and Providence Street at any time in between the designated cleanup times. Biodegradable bags and gardening gloves will be provided, but volunteers are asked to bring rakes if they have extra. Soda and pizza will be provided to volunteers compliments of Roch's Market and Produce and Westcott Bakery.

Any further inquiries can be obtained by calling Jack Lancellotta at 828-9191.

Page 6 Warren Times-Gazette April 22, 2004

EDITORIALS

Don't talk trash, pick it up

There's just one thing wrong with Earth Day. It only comes once a year.

This weekend, the town's conservation commission, aided by a contingent of volunteers, will pick up, bag and haul away a year's worth of Warren's trash. Over the next 12 months, the highway department will do its best to clear debris from streets, but there's only so much town workers can do.

Much is written in these pages about the charm of downtown, the beauty of Warren's waterways, and the loveliness of the woods and farmlands of Touisset. But that pristine picture is marred by the enormous amount of rubbish tossed out of cars and left by the roadside to clog gutters, sully salt marshes and lodge in tree branches until freed by sustained gusts of wind.

There are certain areas of town — Serpentine Road that runs along the Kickemuit River reservoir comes to mind — that seem to attract litterers who have made one of the town's most scenic spots their personal dumping grounds.

Although there are laws prohibiting littering, they can only be enforced if a police officer catches the offender in the act. Hence, fines handed down for littering are rare. But don't blame out-of-towners just passing through for Warren's trash woes. Residents are ultimately responsible for the condition of the town.

Keeping Warren beautiful is everyone's job. Don't point the finger. Pick up the trash.

Local News

Earth Day Awards

04-21-2005 3:05 PM

(Providence, RI) — As we prepare to mark the 35th annual Earth Day tomorrow, the Rhode Island Earth Day Committee has selected its Environmentalists of the Year. Students at the Babcock Elementary School in Westerly are being honored with a group award for their efforts to recycle electronic waste, such as computers. Cranston's Park View Middle School, along with teacher Joanne Spaziano, have also won a group award for incorporating comprehensive energy programs into math, science and language arts programs, and for making energy efficiency improvements at the school. Earth Day Rhode Island's Environmentalist of the Year individual award goes to Bob Cerio, from Providence-based Hudson companies. Cerio has worked for the past six years as the energy manager for Warwick public schools, saving over two-million-dollars for the district during that time. Cerio has also implemented a pilot project to test the use of bio-diesel fuels in school heating systems.<

Reduce junk mail, take showers, switch those light bulbs

BY PETER B. LORD
JOURNAL ENVIRONMENT WRITER

April 22 marks the 35th anniversary of the first Earth Day, which some have said was the largest public demonstration in world history.

In Rhode Island, Earth Day has turned into a month-long series of events and cleanups including a day-long Earth Day Family Festival on Saturday, April 23, at Roger Williams Park Zoo.

A theme for this year's Earth Day in Rhode Island is "Take 3 — Choose three things individuals can do to make the environment better."

The Earth Day Rhode Island Web site, www.earthdayri.org, lists four pages of actions people could take to improve the environment. The recommendations include switching to compact fluorescent light bulbs, avoiding baths (they require much more water than showers), car pooling and reducing junk mail.

Earth Day events in Rhode Island are organized by the state Department of Environmental Management and Roger Williams Park Zoo, along with the state Energy Office and corporate sponsors such as American Power Conversion, Ausgen, CVS Pharmacy, Lincoln Environmental, the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, Star-

ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

bucks Coffee, TransCanada and Verizon Superpages.

The festival at the zoo will be from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The regular zoo admission will be charged: \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$6 for children 3 to 12.

A free RIPTA bus shuttle will be offered from Exchange Terrace in downtown Providence. The first 500 riders will be admitted for free to the zoo.

More than 50 groups will have booths set up at the festival. A rock band with equipment powered solely by fuel cells will perform along with a wide range of other entertainment.

Conservation week will be celebrated at the zoo, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 18 to 22. There will be opportunities to meet the zoo's new baby animals, to learn about wolves and butterflies, and to do crafts.

More than 100 cleanup projects are scheduled around the state. Most are looking for volunteers. To see the schedule, go to www.earthdayri.org.

The state Department of Environmental Management is also planning to award grants to com-

munities to highlight Earth Day. The grants may be used to finance public education and outreach or for local cleanup efforts. For more information, call Melinda Hopkins at (401) 222-3070.

Local Food Forum this week at Brown

Students, farmers, teachers, food activists, government officials and business owners are being invited this week to a four-day conference to explore local sustainable agriculture and its relationship to improved community food security.

The Local Food Forum will be held Wednesday through Saturday at Brown University.

The forum is sponsored by Brown Dining Services and Farm Fresh Rhode Island, a collaborative including Brown, the state Department of Environmental Management and the Rhode Island Foundation.

"In hosting this forum and encouraging wider use of local agricultural products in institutional and restaurant settings, Brown University is contributing in a very positive manner to the economic viability and sustainability of food farming and related businesses in Rhode Island," said Kenneth Ayers, chief of DEM's

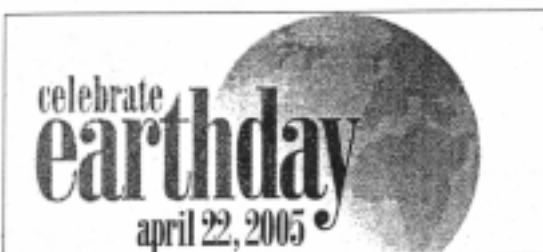


Providence photographer Kathie Fiersheim will present "On the Edge," photos about seashores — where manmade and natural environments meet — tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Rochambeau branch of the Providence Public Library, 708 Hope St. During her slide presentation and lecture, she will show photographs she took at the beach in Narragansett. "The way we are using the land and the implication that it has for the present and the future are of concern to me," she said. Above is one of her images from Daytona Beach, Fla.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATHIE FIERSHEIM

10 The Westerly Pawcatuck Press, Thursday, April 14, 2005

community | LIFE



Misquamicut Earth Day cleanup set

WESTERLY On Saturday, April 23, the Misquamicut Fire District and state Department of Environmental Management will coordinate an Earth Day event at the Misquamicut Fire District recreation complex. This will include repair of snow fencing that surrounds the dunes and litter cleanups will focus on Misquamicut right-of-way

areas and roadsides. Those interested in volunteering should meet at the Atlantic Avenue tennis court, between 10 a.m. to noon. Large paper bags, certain equipment and lunch will be provided.

Volunteers may also call either Pete Przekop or Michael Burbelo at (401) 322-7134 for more information.

Narragansett Times - April 11, 2005

Celebrate Earth Day!

It's spring cleaning for Bonnet Shores

By AIMEE COUTURE

NARRAGANSETT — Bonnet Shores will have a fresh new face come April 23.

For the fifth year, the Bonnet Shores Fire District has applied for and received a Department of Environmental Management grant for \$250 to sponsor an annual Earth Day cleanup Saturday, April 23.

Headed up by 30-year Bonnet Shores resident Margie Manning, other Bonnet Shores residents, Monsignor Clarke school children, and about 40 University of Rhode Island students will gather to clean, plant and tidy up the neighborhood.

Last year they collected two tons of trash in Bonnet Shores, a lot of which washes up on the

beach.

Most of the trash they find are beer cans, coffee cups and fast food bags.

"This year it seems particularly bad," she said.

DEM provides the trash bags and gloves, Waste Management provides the dumpster, and volunteers give their day for the spring cleaning.

University of Rhode Island volunteers have been coming to the cleanup for years and with them they bring Earth Day t-shirts for all of the participants.

The hard workers will also enjoy doughnuts donated by Dunkin' Donuts, fruit from Roch's and pizza from Leo's.

Fueled by the food and their desire to make their neighbor-

hood sparkle, they spend the whole day tidying up for Mother Nature.

"It looks gorgeous by the end of the day," said Manning, who started the spring cleaning as a member of the neighborhood beautification committee.

Bringing together Narragansett residents and URI students wasn't in the initial plan, but it has made a yearly connection for the Bonnet Shores community.

"Everyone has been asking when spring cleanup is this year. It's unbelievable how much trash there is, on the beaches, on the roads and entryway," Manning said. "It looks so different at the end, you can't believe it. It's a real community effort."

Environment-friendly bills making progress after rally

BY PETER B. LORD
JOURNAL ENVIRONMENT WRITER

Last week, the Environment Council of Rhode Island held its annual Earth Day rally at the State House to lobby for environmental bills it considers important. Governor Carcieri and several key legislators joined the members.

The very next day, several of the top bills were voted out of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, chaired by Rep. Peter Ginoit, D-Warwick, who took part in the rally.

The bills still need to clear the Senate. But Matt Aures, of the Rhode Island Public Interest Research Group, Sheila Dorman, president of the environmental council, and Emily Rauchon, of Clean Water Action, all agreed it was a good week for environmental causes.

Bills passed by the committee set energy-efficiency standards for items ranging from cell phones to traffic lights. Another bill, reached after compromises with the auto industry, would have the industry help scrap yards remove from junk cars parts containing mercury. (The scrap yards wanted the auto companies to pay a bounty for each switch.)

The committee passed a House resolution preventing goals to reduce global warming and a bill requiring an American motor insurer to be on board any trailer transporting liquefied natural gas into Narragansett Bay.

It also passed a bill calling for

ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

eliminating the additive methyl tertiary-butyl ether from gasoline sold in Rhode Island by Jan. 1, 2007.

The advocates did lose on a bill that would have mandated the use of low-sulfur heating oil in Rhode Island. Industry representatives and advocates agreed it would help clean Rhode Island's air, but industry experts said such fuels are so rare that it would be difficult to get enough to keep Rhode Island fully supplied.

The bills still have to clear the House and Senate and get approved by the governor, but the advocates are optimistic.

"We think we have a great chance of passing environmental legislation this year, and we look forward to working with the environmental champions in the General Assembly and Governor Carcieri to make sure that happens," Dorman said at the news conference.

Earth Day cleanup set around the state

With Earth Day next weekend, literally hundreds of cleanups, celebrations and other special events have been scheduled around Rhode Island. The most comprehensive list is at www.earthday.org.

In related events, several

groups are sponsoring an "Earth Day Breakfast of Champions" Friday to recognize local champions of environmental health.

Janet Keller, chief of the office of strategic planning at the state Department of Environmental Management, will be recognized as the "Behind the Scenes Champion."

Representative Ginoit and Sen. Susan Solomon, D-South Kingstown, will be recognized as "Legislative Champions."

And Roberto Hazen-Aarssen, director of the Childhood Lead Action Project, will get the "Lifetime Champion" award.

The breakfast will be at 8:30 a.m. at the Aspray Boathouse in Pawtucket Village. Tickets are \$25, or \$10 for students and people with low incomes. For tickets or information, call Clean Water Action at (401) 331-6972.

The Audubon Society of Rhode Island will celebrate Earth Day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at its Environmental Education Center in Bristol. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Admission is free for those arriving on bicycles.

The focus will be on clean energy, with demonstrations of solar cooking and wind energy, as well as greenhouse and children's activities. For more information, call (401) 245-7900 or go to www.audubon.org.

The Rhode Island Earth Day Committee is sponsoring a festival from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday at Roger Williams Park, in Providence.

Consumer Reports, the na-

tional consumer organization, is offering a new Web site with information on environmentally friendly products. Greenchoices.org will be available to the public next weekend.

S. Kingstown teen wins stamp award

A total of 954 students took part this spring in the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest sponsored by the Friends of the National Wildlife Refuge in Rhode Island and the Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

One hundred winners were honored at an awards ceremony two weeks ago.

The Best of Show Award went to Emily Sorlien, 15, of South Kingstown High School. Her entry will be sent to Washington, D.C., to compete for a national title on Saturday.

The winner of the national competition will receive a \$5,000 prize and a trip to Washington. The design will be made into the Federal Junior Duck Stamp, which will be sold with profits used for conservation education purposes.

Sorlien also received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from U.S. Sen. Lincoln Chafee.

Each student created a picture of native waterfowl in its natural habitat and wrote a conservation message for each picture.



Emily Sorlien, 15, of South Kingstown High School, will compete in a national stamp contest after winning at the state level. Timothy Mooney, of U.S. Sen. Lincoln Chafee's office, recently presented her with a certificate of special congressional recognition.

Ballard offers lecture Tuesday

Robert Ballard, the internationally recognized marine archaeologist, will give a lecture, "Exploring the Ocean Floor," on Tuesday, April 26, at Roger Williams University.

The lecture is part of a series and will be offered at 7 p.m. in the Mary Teltz White Cultural Center at the university's Main

Library on the Bristol Campus at One Old Ferry Road.

Ballard is one of the world's leading spokesmen for marine research. He discovered the sunken wrecks of the Titanic and the German battleship the Bismarck. He currently heads the Institute for Deep-Sea Archaeology at the University of Rhode Island.

Wild Plant Society hosts walk April 24

The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society is taking its first walk this spring at the recently acquired Crowley Preserve in Richmond and South Kingstown.

The walk is scheduled for 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 24. There is a fee of \$3 for members and \$5 for nonmembers. Registration is required. Call (401) 453-3777.

The 112-acre preserve is home to a mixed deciduous forest, white pine woods, American beech stands and red maple lowlands.

The Environmental Journal is a listing of brief news items about the actions of individuals, organizations and businesses that affect the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the landscape that surrounds us. If you have comments or suggestions, please contact environment reporter Peter B. Lord at (401) 277-8006, or by e-mail at plord@projo.com, or by writing him, care of The Providence Journal, 75 Fountain St., Providence, R.I. 02902.

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Earth Day cleanup set in Misquamicut

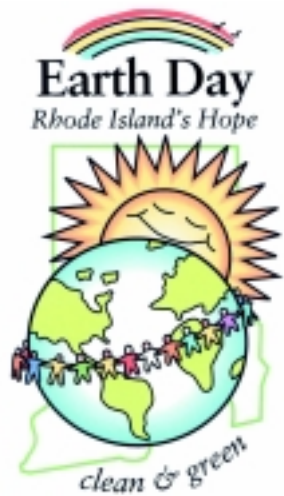
WESTERLY - The Misquamicut Fire District and state Department of Environmental Management will coordinate an Earth Day event at the fire district recreation complex.

Volunteers will repair snow fencing that surrounds the dunes and cleanup Misquamicut right-of-way areas and roadsides.

Volunteers are asked to meet at the Atlantic Avenue tennis court between 10 a.m. and noon. Large paper bags, certain equipment and lunch will be provided. Volunteers may also call Pete Przekop, moderator or Michael Burbelo at 322-7134 for further information.

The fire district received a DEM Earth Day mini-

grant of \$250 toward supplies involved in the community cleanup. The purpose of the grant, according to organizers, is to recognize the importance of people improving the quality of life in their communities.



EARTH DAY RHODE ISLAND

**c/o DEM, Suite 330
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908**

(401) 222-3434

www.earthdayri.org